

African-American Firsts:

Local Elected Official: John Mercer Langston, 1855, town clerk of Brownhelm Township Ohio

U.S. Diplomat: Ebenezer D. Bassett, 1869, became minister-resident to Haiti; Patricia Harris became the first black female ambassador (1965; Luxembourg)

Combat pilot: Georgia-born Eugene Jacques Bullard, 1917, denied entry into the U.S. Army Air Corps because of his race, served throughout World War I in the French Flying Corps. He received the Legion of Honor, France's highest honor, among many other decorations.

Astronaut: Robert H. Lawrence, Jr., 1967, was the first black astronaut, but he died in a plane crash during a training flight and never made it into space. Guion Buford, 1983, became the first black astronaut to travel in space; Mae Jemison, 1992, became the first black female astronaut. Frederick D. Gregory, 1998, was the first African-American shuttle commander.

Editor, Harvard Law Review: Charles Hamilton Houston, 1919. In 1990 Barack Obama became the first President of the Harvard Law Review.

College President: Daniel A. Payne, 1856, Wilberforce University, Ohio

Ivy League President: Ruth Simmons, 2001, Brown University

Network Television Show Host: Nat King Cole, 1956, "The Nat King Cole Show"; Oprah Winfrey became the first black woman television host in 1986, "The Oprah Winfrey Show."

NFL Football Coach: Fritz Pollard, 1922-1937

NHL Hockey Player: Willie O'Ree, 1958, Boston Bruins

Millionaire: Madame C.J. Walker

Billionaire: Robert Johnson, 2001, owner of Black Entertainment Television; Oprah Winfrey, 2003

Flight around the world: Barrington Irving, 2007, from Miami Gardens, Florida, flew a Columbia 400 plane named Inspiration around the world in 96 days, 150 hours (March 23-June 27)





City of Bloomington Black History Steering Committee:

Elizabeth Bridgwaters, Beverly Calender-Anderson, Tiffani Canon, Diane Hanks, Janice Hazelrig, Janell Hughes, William Knox, Eric Love, Ashley Sims, Doris Sims, Debra Vance, Rev. Sharon White

Black History Month – Bloomington Style Sponsors:

City of Bloomington, Indiana University Office of Diversity, Equity and Multicultural Affairs, Ivy Tech Community College, Bloomington Black Business and Professional Association



Black History Month
Bloomington Style:
Generations

2008 Community-Wide Calendar of Events



Thursday, Jan. 31

City of Bloomington Black History Month Kick-off Program and Reception

Location: Showers City Hall, 501 N. Morton Street

Time: 6pm

Sponsor: City of Bloomington

African American Quilts of Bloomington Exhibit

Exhibition runs 1/31 – 3/7

Location: Showers City Hall, 501 N. Morton Street

Sponsor: City of Bloomington

Friday, Feb. 1

Indiana University’s Black History Month Opening Ceremonies & Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. 2008 Celebration Closing Ceremonies Bridgwaters Family Photographs Exhibit & Opening Reception

Location: Exhibit: Bridgwaters Lounge

Reception: Neal-Marshall Black Culture Center, Grand Hall

Time: 4pm

Sponsor: Office of the Vice President for Diversity, Equity, & Multicultural Affairs, African American Arts Institute, & the Martin Luther King, Jr. Planning Committee

Friday, Feb. 1- Sunday, Feb. 3

Play: One More River to Cross

Location: Bloomington Playwright Project, 107 W. 9th St.

Time: Friday & Saturday 7pm • Sunday 3pm

Sponsor: Bloomington Playwright Project

Price: \$20 General Admission & \$12 Students

Monday, Feb. 4

African American Read-In

Location: Neal-Marshall Black Culture Center, Grand Hall

Time: 10am

Sponsor: School of Education, School of Education’s Language Education Department, Office of the Vice President for Diversity, Equity, & Multicultural Affairs, and the Neal-Marshall Black Culture Center

Tuesday, Feb. 5

Film: My Nappy Roots:

A Journey through Black Hair-itage

Time: TBA

Location: TBA

Sponsor: Black Film Center/Archive

Thursday, Feb. 7

Reception and Photographic Exhibit: African Americans in Public and Environmental Affairs

Exhibit will run 2/7 - 2/29

Location: SPEA 420 & Atrium

Time: 2pm

Sponsor: SPEA Undergraduate Programs

“The Sugar Babies: The Plight of the Children of Agricultural Workers in the Sugar Industry of the Dominican Republic”, a documentary by Amy Serrano

Location: TBA

Time: TBA

Sponsor: Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies, School of Law Cultural Studies, Communication & Culture, Latino Studies, History, Anthropology, La Casa, Spanish & Portuguese, Black Film Archives

BHM Keynote Speaker: Dr. Terrence Roberts Lecture & Reception

Location: Neal-Marshall Black Culture Center, Grand Hall

Time: 7pm

Sponsor: Office of the Vice President for Diversity, Equity, & Multicultural Affairs

Soulful Rocker Jenn Cristy

Location: Ivy Tech Community College Student Commons

Time: 4pm

Sponsor: Ivy Tech Community College

Monday, Feb. 11

Step Afrikah! Step Show Performance

Location: Indiana Memorial Union Alumni Hall

Time: 7pm

Sponsor: Office of the Vice President for Diversity, Equity, & Multicultural Affairs and the Union Board

Critical Issues Lecture Series presents Rashad Shabazz, Berkeley University “Carceral Geographies and Black Masculinity: The Prisonization of Black Living Space”

Location: TBA

Time: 4pm

Sponsor: African American and African Diaspora Studies

Tuesday, Feb. 12

Women of Color Symposium

Time: 6pm

Location: Showers City Hall Council Chambers

501 N. Morton Street

Sponsor: City of Bloomington

Whether you’re 20, 30, 40, 50 or beyond the topics of financial management, entrepreneurship, health and the Impact of Language are important. This symposium will explore how these topics impact women at various stages in their lives.

Wednesday, Feb. 13

A Time to Break Silence: Reflections on

Martin Luther King Jr.’s Speech and the War in Iraq

Time: 4pm

Location: Swain Hall West Room 105

Sponsor: Near Eastern Languages and Cultures Dept.

Eric Thomas and The Advantage: “From Dialogue to Action”

Time: 7pm-8:30pm

Location: Neal-Marshall Black Culture Center – Room A201

Sponsors: Office of Mentoring Services and Leadership Development

The Advantage is a dynamic student driven organization directed by motivational speaker Eric Thomas that empowers students to achieve a high level of academic, personal and professional success.



Saturday, Feb. 16

Trends through the Ages: Fashion Show

Time: 3pm

Location: Tri-North Middle School, 1000 W. 15th Street

Sponsor: City of Bloomington

National Girls and Women in Sports Day Minority Mentoring Program

Time: 11am-5:30pm

Location: IU School of Health, Physical Education and Recreation

Sponsors: City of Bloomington Safe and Civil City Program, IU School of HPER, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. Upsilon Kappa Zeta Chapter

For Info contact: sudjohns@indiana.edu or (812) 332-2385

High school girls will visit the School of HPER and discuss preparing for life on a university campus, university entrance requirements, developing time management skills, career opportunities related to HPER majors and much, much more. Program attendees receive a ticket to the IU Women’s Basketball game on Sunday, February 17 (IU vs. Michigan).

Sunday, Feb. 17

National Girls and Women in Sports Day

Time: 10am (Game tip-off at noon)

Location: Assembly Hall

Sponsors: IU Women’s Hoops, Indiana University School of Health, Physical Education, and Recreation, Girl Scouts of Tulip Trace Council, Indiana Youth Institute, Indiana University Campus Recreational Sports, Monroe County Chapter of the IU Alumni Association

National Girls and Women in Sports Day began in 1987 as a day to remember Olympic Volleyball player Flo Hyman. It has evolved into a day to honor female athletic achievement and recognize the importance of sports and fitness participation for all girls and women.

Wednesday, Feb. 20

Film Director Raquel Cepeda & the Blood Diamonds Documentary

Location: Woodburn Hall, Room 144

Time: 6pm

Sponsor: Office of the Vice President for Diversity, Equity, & Multicultural Affairs, School of Journalism and the Dept of Communication and Culture, Latino Graduate Student Association, Black Graduate Student Association, and the Office of Academic Support and Diversity

Thursday, Feb. 21

“Stomp the Yard” The Movie

Time: 3pm

Location: Ivy Tech Community College Student Commons

Sponsor: Ivy Tech Community College

Saturday, Feb. 23

Black History Month Gala: A Black & White Affair

Location: Convention Center Grand Room

Time: 7pm

Sponsor: City of Bloomington

Cost: \$35 per person and \$180 for a “Couples” Package

For tickets or more information email bhm gala@gmail.com

Monday, Feb. 25

Worlds Collide: Spirit, Soul & Body

Location: Neal-Marshall Black Culture Center, Grand Hall

Time: 6pm

Sponsor: African American Arts Institute, Department of Theatre and Drama

Discussion with Playwright Robert O’Hara Event

Location: Wells/Metz Theatre in the Lee Norvelle Theatre and Drama Center

Time: 6pm

Sponsor: African American Arts Institute, Department of Theatre and Drama

The Poet & the Emperor: Power and the Arts in Nigeria and Beyond

Part I: A Reading by novelist, Akinwumi Adesokan

Followed by Reception & Exhibit

Part II: A Conversation with Akinwumi Adesokan and Biodun

Jeyifo

Time/Location:

• 5:00pm, Public Reading, Lilly Library: Slocum Room

• 6:30pm, Reception & Exhibit, Lilly Library: Lincoln Room

• 7:15pm, Public Discussion, Lilly Library: Slocum Room

Sponsor: Project on African Expressive Traditions (POAET)

ArtsWeek 2008, IU African Studies Program, Lilly Library

Wednesday, Feb. 27

OMSLD Black History Month Art Fair

Time: 9:00am – 5:00pm

Closing Program: 4:00pm-5:00pm

Location: Indiana Memorial Union - Frangipani Room

Sponsors: IU Office of Mentoring Services and Leadership Development

Contact: For additional information contact (812) 855-2685 or ccbeatty@indiana.edu

Black Knowledge Bowl – NMBCC

Time: TBA

Location: Neal-Marshall Black Culture Center

Sponsor: Neal-Marshall Black Culture Center

Friday, Feb. 29

African American Dance Company

11th Annual Dance Workshop

Location: Neal-Marshall Black Culture Center- Theater Building

Time: All Day event

Sponsor: African American and African Diaspora Studies

and African American Arts Institute

Saturday, March 1

Closing Ceremonies

African American Dance Company

11th Annual Dance Showcase

Location: Willkie Auditorium

Time: 6pm

Sponsor: African American and African Diaspora Studies, African American Arts Institute, Office of the Vice President for Diversity, Equity,& Multicultural Affairs